

10/582965

AP3 Rec'd PCT/PTO 15 JUN 2006

Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 04632.0070

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re National Phase of International )  
Application No. PCT/JP2004/018887 )  
under 35 U.S.C. 371 of: )  
 ) Group Art Unit:  
Minoru HIRATA, et al. )  
 ) Examiner:  
Application No.: Not Yet Assigned )  
 )  
Filed: June 15, 2006 )  
 )  
For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR )  
FORMING FLASKLESS COPE )  
AND DRAG, AND METHOD )  
OF REPLACING )  
MATCHPLATE )

MAILSTOP PCT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the document listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and cited in the international search report. A copy of the listed foreign patent document is attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the document listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and indicate that it was considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-referenced application.

The following is listed on the accompanying PTO/SB/08 and is in a non-English language:

1. Japanese Patent Application No. JP 3-243243.

In lieu of a statement of relevance or the translation of the non-English document, enclosed is an English-language international search report from the Japanese Patent Office in the PCT international application, from which this national phase U.S. application is derived, citing this document and setting forth the relevance thereof.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed document are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the document as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited document do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document. Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should one or more of the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

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If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please  
charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: June 15, 2006

By: 

Ernest F. Chapman  
Reg. No. 25,961

Enclosures  
EFC/FPD/rac

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|--|---|----|---|------------------------|---------------|
| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO  |   |    |   | Complete if Known      |               |
| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br><i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i> |   |    |   | Application Number     |               |
|  |   |    |   | Filing Date            | June 15, 2006 |
|  |   |    |   | First Named Inventor   | Minoru HIRATA |
|  |   |    |   | Art Unit               |               |
|  |   |    |   | Examiner Name          |               |
| Sheet  | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | 04632.0070    |

| U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS |                          |  |  |  |   |
|---|--------------------------|--|--|--|---|
| Examiner<br>Initials                                | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                          | Issue or<br>Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|   |                          | Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |  |  |   |
|   |                          | US-                                      |  |  |   |
|   |                          | US-                                      |  |  |   |
|   |                          | US-                                      |  |  |   |
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|   |                          | US-                                      |  |  |   |

Note: Copies of the U.S. Patent Documents are not Required in IDS filed after October 21, 2004

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |   |                                |  |  |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|--|--------------------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials     | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear | Translation <sup>6</sup> |
|                          |                          | Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                                |  |  |                          |
| /K.L./                   |                          | JP 3-243243   | 10-19-1991                     | SINTO KOGYO LTD.                                   |  | NO                       |
|                          |                          |   |                                |  |  |                          |
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| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                          |   |                          |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials            | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | Translation <sup>6</sup> |
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|-----------------------|-------------|--------------------|------------|
| Examiner<br>Signature | /Kuang Lin/ | Date<br>Considered | 02/20/2009 |
|-----------------------|-------------|--------------------|------------|